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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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*****MEDIA ALERT*****

Brookings Institution to Highlight BTOP Projects

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) head, Assistant Secretary Larry Strickling, to give a speech about the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) at the [Brookings Institution](#), marking the three-year anniversary of the BTOP program launch.

WHEN:

- Wednesday, January 16, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. MST

WHERE:

- Brookings Institution, Falk Auditorium (see www.brookings.edu/events/2013/01/16-broadband-technology-opportunities)

WHAT:

- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 included \$4 billion to support the NTIA-administered BTOP project, which has invested in roughly [230 projects](#) to increase broadband access and adoption around the country. The [Governance Studies at Brookings](#) will provide an update on the 3-year-old BTOP program. Strickling's remarks will be followed by a panel of officials from BTOP projects that will provide firsthand accounts from around the country.

WHY:

- Idaho is the recipient of \$1,907,531 in federal funds for the Idaho Commission for Libraries' "online @ your library" Public Computer Center BTOP project, which has expanded broadband and computing capacity from an average of 1.5 Mbps to an average of 11 Mbps Internet connectivity in Idaho's least connected public libraries and increased the online resources available statewide at lili.org.

MORE:

See more about the Commission's BTOP project at the Idaho Commission for Libraries' website at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/online>.

About Idaho Commission for Libraries:

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele. To learn more about ICFL, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>.